

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 101261 TOSEC 040164
ORIGIN SS-25

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S E C R E T STATE 101261 TOSEC 040164

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT DAR ES SALAAM 1738 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
CAPE TOWN GABORONE LAGOS LONDON LUSAKA MAPUTO PRETORIA
USUN APR 20

QUOTE S E C R E T DAR ES SALAAM 1738

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS SECRETARY

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PDEV, RH, TZ
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: FOLLOW-UP TO MALTA II
REF: DAR ES SALAAM 1709

1. I UNDERSTAND FROM DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES THAT NYERERE HAS BEEN
BRIEFING A NUMBER OF RESIDENT AMBASSADORS ON MALTA II CONFERENCE,
PRETTY MUCH ALONG LINES PARAS 3 AND 4 REFTEL. HE SEEMS TO BE
AVOIDING LAYING BLAME ON EITHER US-UK OR PF AND IS EMPHASIZING
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PAGE 02 STATE 101261 TOSEC 040164

THAT MORE AGREEMENT WAS IN FACT REACHED THAN IS APPARENT FROM
THE JOINT STATEMENT OR EARLY PRESS REPORTING.

2. ONE OF THE AMBASSADORS ALSO REPORTED THAT UPON COMING IN TO
SEE NYERERE, HE FOUND THE PRESIDENT IN A STATE OF SOME AGITATION,
PROFESSEDLY AS A RESULT OF A JUST PRIOR "ROUGH SESSION" WITH
ROBERT MUGABE. THIS MAY HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH MUGABE'S

PRESS CONFERENCE EVENING OF APRIL 19 (REPORTED SEPTEL) IN
WHICH MUGABE DID A TYPICALLY CRUDE AND STRIDENT JOB ON THE SAME
SUBJECT.

3. FOR OUR OWN PART HERE, WE DO NOT YET FEEL CONFIDENT ENOUGH TO
DO A COMPLETE RETROSPECTIVE ON MALTA II. OUR PRELIMINARY
REACTION, HOWEVER, IS THAT THINGS CAME OUT WELL. PUTTING ASIDE
EMINENTLY JUSTIFIABLE ANNOYANCE ABOUT THE FRONT LINE'S PROMIS-
ING MORE THAN IT DELIVERED AND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT'S BEING
DEMANDING AND INTRANSIGENT, THE WAY IS OPEN FOR AN ALL PARTIES
CONFERENCE -- AND WITH MORE POTENTIAL FOR CONSTRUCTIVE REACTION
BY SOUTH AFRICA AND THE SALISBURY REGIME THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN
THE CASE IF THE US DEL HAD GONE ON SOUTH WITH A SIGNED, SEALED,
AND DELIVERED AGREEMENT WITH THE PF. AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE
BOTH THE FL AND THE PF (A) ON NOTICE THAT WE WILL NOT ACCEDE
TO EVERYTHING THEY WANT, AND (B) WORRIED THAT WE MAY WALK
AWAY FROM THEM. AND, THROUGHOUT IT ALL, WE STILL HAVE NYERERE
EAGER TO COOPERATE WITH US ON ACHIEVEMENT OF A PEACEFUL
SETTLEMENT.

SPAIN. UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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